



PATENT APPLICATION 123

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

H17/Ext of
Time (2mo)

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GROUP 3600

In re application of

Docket No: Q64784

Hayato YAMAUCHI

Appln. No.: 09/881,108

Group Art Unit: 3682

Confirmation No.: 7294

Examiner: William C. JOYCE

Filed: June 15, 2001

For: PINION SLIP-OFF PREVENTIVE STRUCTURE OF STARTING APPARATUS

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER RULE 136(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants/Appellants herewith request an extension of time of two months in which to reply to the Examiner's Answer dated July 21, 2004 in the captioned application. Applicants submit that good cause is shown by the following facts:

The present case has been prosecuted to Appeal by attorney Stan Torgovitsky of the undersigned's office. Approximately two and one-half weeks ago, Mr. Torgovitsky resigned his position at the firm, and has today terminated his employment. At the time of Mr. Torgovitsky's resignation, the undersigned exercised due care in discussing the current appeal with Mr. Torgovitsky, who, at that time, agreed to prepare and file Applicant's Reply Brief before terminating his employment.

However, apparently due to other pressing matters, Mr. Torgovitsky did not in fact complete the process of finalizing a Reply Brief. In discussing the case prior to Mr.

Torgovitsky's departure today, the undersigned has learned that, *inter alia*, the Examiner's

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Answer for the subject case has not yet been forwarded to the Applicants. Accordingly, the undersigned is faced with the prospect of finalizing a Reply Brief on 24 hours notice, without any possibility of considered comment from the Applicants, who are in Japan.

Accordingly, for good cause shown, the undersigned respectfully requests that an extension of time of two months be granted in order to seek comment for the Applicant, and thereafter submit a responsive Reply Brief.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 20, 2004